ANS member 1910 - 1913.

Elwell, Frank Edwin

[Sculptor, Weehawken, NJ]

1910-1917

[Includes January 30, 1915 "poisoning" letter.]

TO THE SECRETARY OF

THE AMERICAN NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

DEAR SIR:

PLEASE PROPOSE MY NAME AS ANNUAL ASSOCIATE MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN NUMISMATIC SOCIETY. UPON NOTIFICATION OF MY ELECTION, I WILL SEND MY CHECK FOR FIVE (5) DOLLARS

YOURS TRULY

NAME F. Edwin Shweer

ADDRESS Weehawken, N.J.

NOTE: THE SUM OF FIFTY (50) DOLLARS PAID AT ANY TIME UPON ELECTION CONSTITUTES A LIFE MEMBERSHIP AND IS IN LIEU OF ALL OTHER PAYMENTS

Corresp. Numismatic Society

FRANK EDWIN ELWELL
HUDSON PLACE
WEEHAWKEN
N. J.

NOV 12 1910

FRANK EDWIN ELWELL
12 HUDSON PLACE
WEEHAWKEN, NEW JERSEY

The American Numismatic Society
New York City N.Y.

Am Sirs,
Mr Secretary.

I accept with pleasure the honor conferred upon me by your distinguished society. for being made an associate member.

Respectfully yours.
Frank Edwin Elwell,

Nov-21-1910

11/21- Sent bill $2.50

P.S. as there is some doubt
in my mind as to the
amount I can get by $2.50
or $3.00 kindly instruct me.

FRANK EDWIN ELWELL

12 HUDSON PLACE

WEEHAWKEN, NEW JERSEY

Sculptor of the Statues

— OF —

ABRAHAM LINCOLN,
Parkway East, Orange, N. J.

DISPATCH RIDER,
Orange, N. J.

NEW LIFE,
Bonney Memorial, Lowell, Mass.

DICKENS AND LITTLE NELL,
Fairmount Park, Philadelphia, Pa.

REAR ADMIRAL C. H. DAVIS,
Vicksburg, Miss.

GENERAL FREDERICK STEELE,
Vicksburg, Miss.

THE FLAG,
7th Rhode Island Memorial,
Vicksburg, Miss.

EQUESTRIAN OF GENERAL HANCOCK,
Gettysburg, Pa.

GREECE,
ROME,
New York Custom House, N. Y. City.

DEATH OF STRENGTH,
Edam, Holland.
First statue to be erected in Europe
by an American born sculptor.

BUSTS:

VICE-PRESIDENT MORTON,
VICE-PRESIDENT HOBART,
Senate Chamber, Washington, D. C.

DANTE,
SHAKESPEARE,
Scranton Memorial Library,
Madison, Conn.

HON. ROBERT MILLER WALMSLEY,
Tulane University, New Orleans, La.

COL. R. T. VAN HORN,
Journal Office, Kansas City, Mo.

HON. S. B. CHITTENDEN,
Yale Library, Yale University.

SIR PETER ESSELMONT,
Lord Provost of Aberdeen, Scotland,
Library at Aberdeen.

FIVE MEDALS in gold, silver and bronze.

The American Numismatic Society

Dear Sir:

I hereby tender you my resignation,

Please accept the same.

Sincerely yours,

Frank E. Elwell.

Oct-7-1912.

October 8th, 1912.

Mr. Frank Edwin Elwell,
12 Hudson Place,
Weehawken, N. J.

Dear Sir:-

Your favor of October 7th resigning your membership in this Society has just been received, and will be presented to the Council in due time.

At the same time I would like to bring to yourattention the following paragraph from the By-Laws of this Society:

CHAPTER IV, Paragraph 3.

Resignations of Members of all classes shall be made in writing to the Council. A Member or Associate Member presenting his resignation after the third Monday in January shall not be relieved from paying his dues for the current year.

I enclose herewith a bill for your dues as Associate Member for the current year which commenced on the twentieth of January last.

Very truly yours,

Secretary.

Elwell Art Lamp Company

12 HUDSON PLACE

Weehawken, N. J., Jan 30 — 1915

American Numismatic Society,

Am Sirs:

You will note by above that I have been driven out of my profession for a time, as the direct result of the attitude of Robert W. de Forest, Daniel C. French and what might be termed "the Morgan Bunch".

I have stood honestly for American Art Series and no pleasure has come to me I enjoyed more than membership in your Society. I resigned because of financial difficulties brought about by my three years of illness resulting from arsenic poison given me by a crook the "Dollar Tucker" sent over to my home as a servant. It was only the mercy of God that saved me. In one of the three terrible convulsions I fell and broke my right arm. It is a sore handicap as it will never be the same again.

2

Elwell Art Lamp Company

12 HUDSON PLACE

Weehawken, N. J., 191

While I was still the "National Art Commission" was formed through the Washington of French made chairman. It proves now to be the center of an interlocking understanding with other "Art Commissions" all over the land so that a map may be frozen out by the combination.

While at the Museum I stood firmly for American Art Genius, for the integrity of Artists life. This did not please those who play the game.

I believe that it is disasterous to the best interests of American Art to legislate or controle it. Genius must feel the inspiration of freedom to think out specific ideals which are a direct inflow from those Almighty Forces we feel but can not define.

Self expression is valuable but you no doubt have taken note that the tendency is toward organizations and absolutism.

3

Elwell Art Lamp Company

12 HUDSON PLACE

Weehawken, N. J., 191

All Europe is wallowing in blood because of this tendency toward absolutism.

We have commissions for about everything. Contract by force of wealth or numbers.

It is however the minority which holds fast the newest of best ideas for wonderful progress of some day we above fine the minority alone considerations.

I believe the public would be richer in art treasures if they could be directed toward the studios of work shops of the individual men or women of American Genius.

Many of the ideas I have labored for are now being looked at seriously. But who is to pay me for all this great loss of time, health and opportunity but upon me because I preferred to remain honorable as an artist.

The Museum owes me my salary since 1906 and an eminent Judge says they will be obliged to pay me.

Elwell Art Lamp Company

12 HUDSON PLACE

Weehawken, N. J., 191

Every effort will be made not to buy me.

They are trying to corner them by sending me invitations - but it is hard to be done first.

We are now observing what I referred to in one of my college lectures "I fancy it is easier to amass great wealth by doubtful means than to successfully distribute it when it has once been piled up."

Wealth should go out with a generous hand to help artistic genius. Wealth would be honored by so doing.

I hope some day to make something worthy of your facility of whole feel honored to have it become a part of your property.

Our greatest art can not be manufactured - it must first come as a spiritual inspiration then be worked out from the brain of the individual artist and by his own hands.

Co-operation not competition is the life of Art.

Sincerely
F. Edwin Elwell.

Am carving beautiful wooden
electric lamps for decorating
our stores.

STATUES

ABRAHAM LINCOLN
Parkway East, Orange, N. J.

DISPATCH RIDER
Orange, N. J.

NEW LIFE
Bonney Memorial, Lowell, Mass.

GENIUS OF MEMORY
Lowell Cemetery, Lilley Memorial.

DICKENS AND LITTLE NELL
Clarence Clark Park, Philadelphia, Pa.

REAR ADMIRAL C. H. DAVIS
Vicksburg, Miss.

GENERAL FREDERICK STEELE
Vicksburg, Miss.

THE FLAG
7th Rhode Island Memorial,
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Scranton Memorial Library,
Madison, Conn.

HON. AMZI DODD
Late President of the Mutual Benefit
Life Insurance Co., Newark, N. J.

HON. ROBERT MILLER WALMSLEY
Tulane University, New Orleans, La.

COL. R. T. VAN HORN
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Gettysburg, Pa.

GREECE
ROME
New York Custom House, New York City.

"AQUA VIVA"
Metropolitan Museum of Art
New York City.

"KRONOS"
Heroic Fountain,
Pan-American Exposition.

"DIANA AND LION"
Art Museum, Chicago, Ill.

DEATH OF STRENGTH
Edam, Holland.
First Statue to be erected in Europe
by an American-born sculptor.

FIVE MEDALS in gold, silver and bronze.

FRANK EDWIN ELWELL
SCULPTOR
12 HUDSON PLACE WEEHAWKEN, NEW JERSEY

The American Numismatic Soc.
New York City
N.Y.

Dear Sirs:

Was pleased with your medalion sent for "Mord 1 & 2" was another & be present.

Thanking you sincerely I by & remain yours.

F. Edwin Elwell

March 4
1917.